

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, NL

SUBJECT: DRUG ABUSE IN WESTERN EUROPE (C-DI-6-50012)

REF: STATE 154951

1. FOLLOWING ARE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS POSED IN PARA 2

REFTEL:

(A) WHAT IS ESTIMATED NUMBER OF HEROIN OR OTHER ADDICTS IN THE NETHERLANDS?

HEROIN - 10,000, HALF OF THEM IN AMSTERDAM; OPIUM SMOKERS AND EATERS - UNKNOWN, BUT BELIEVED TO BE LIMITED TO SMALL GROUP OF OLDER CHINESE IN AMSTERDAM AND ROTTERDAM; COCAINE USERS - UNKNOWN, BUT THOUGHT TO BE SMALL, MAINLY IN THE 18-21 YEAR AGE GROUP AND CONFINED TO AMSTERDAM; COCA LEAF USERS - NOT USED; AMPHETAMINE ABUSERS - UNKNOWN, BARBITUATE ABUSERS - UNKNOWN; HASHISH USERS - UNKNOWN; MARIJUANA USERS - UNKNOWN.

(B) DOES AN OFFICIAL DRUG ABUSE AND TREATMENT PROGRAM CURRENTLY EXIST AND, IF SO, HOW MANY HEROIN ADDICTS ARE REGISTERED?

NO. DURING ITS DEBATE ON THE NEW DRUG LEGISLATION EARLY THIS YEAR, THE SECOND CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT PASSED A RESOLUTION
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ASKING THE GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO BE RUN BY

PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS. THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW DRAFTING THE PROGRAM.

(C) ARE THERE ANY PRIVATE DRUG ABUSE/TREATMENT PROGRAMS OR CENTERS AND, IF SO, HOW MANY ADDICTS ARE CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN SUCH PROGRAMS?

YES, MAINLY SMALL CLINICS. THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO IDEA HOW MANY ADDICTS ARE BEING TREATED, BUT A REGISTRATION SYSTEM IS BEING PREPARED, STARTING WITH HEROIN ADDICTS.

(D) WHAT IS ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE NUMBER OF HEROIN OR OPIUM ADDICTS NOW CURRENTLY RECEIVING TREATMENT IN EITHER A GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATELY SPONSORED PROGRAM? WHAT IS BASIS FOR ESTIMATE?

SEE ANSWERS TO B AND C ABOVE. NO FIGURES OR ESTIMATES AVAILABLE.

2. INFORMATION IN ANSWER A BASED ON DATA PROVIDED TO DEA OFFICE BY MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OFFICIALS. INFORMATION IN ANSWERS B, C, AND D WAS PROVIDED BY MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND RECREATION. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK AND FORWARD ADDITIONAL DATA.
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